THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : The Central Government allocates rice, wheat, sugar, imported edible oil, kerosene and soft/CIL coke to States/UTs at fixed Central Issue Prices (CIP) for distribution through Public Distribution System (PDS). The end retail prices of these commodities are fixed by the States/UTs themselves after taking into account various overheads like transportation/handling charges, local levies/taxes, dealers margin etc. except in the case of sugar where the uniform end retail price of Rs.9.05 per kg. all over the country is fixed by the Central Government. The Central Government does not maintain the details of fair price shop level prices in statutory rationing areas.

Colliery Accidents

2385. SHRI HARADHAN ROY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No.1052 on July 29,1994 regarding colliery accidents and state:

(a) whether the Court of Enquiry appointed by his Ministry in respect of the mine accidents that occurred on 25 January, 1994 at New Kenda Colliery of E.C.L. has been completed the enquiry;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government thereto; and

(d) if not, the reasons for delay in completing the enquiry?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

(d) The Court of Inquiry could not initiate proceedings for a considerable period due to a stay order granted by the Hon'ble Calcutta High Court. The stay was vacated in Sept. 1995. Since then, the Court of Inquiry has started investigation. The report has not been submitted so far. The term of the Court of Inquiry is presently extended upto 24.10.96.

Satellite TV Network

2386. SHRI PRASARAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether all the districts in the country have been brought under satellite television relay net-work;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be brought under this net-work?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IRBAHIM) : (a) to (d). Satellite derived TV services are already available through out the country with the use of an appropriate dish antenna.

Branch Post Offices in Assam

2387. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of branch Post Offices opened during each of the last three years in Assam, location wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to open some more branch Post Offices in the State during 1996-97;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Number of Branch Post offices opened during the last three years in Assam, location-wise is given in the Statement attached.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) 2 Branch Post Offices are proposed to be opened during 1996-97.

(d) Question does not arise in view of (b) above.

STATEMENT

Branch Post Offices opened in Assam during the last three years location-wise.

S.No.	Year	Name of Branch post offices in Assam
1	2	3
1.	1993-94	1. Uzankuri
		2. Chamatapathar
		3. Bamunkata
		4. Lafakuchi
		5. Digorkhal Bazar
		6. Alexanarpur
		7. Bagbari
		8. Manigipur
		9. Borshijhora
		10. Kakormary
		11. Kachadal
		12. Ambari
		13. Padmeralaga Pt.-II,
		14. Rangajuli
		15. Barbil-Kachari
		16. Telisal
		17. Bajarchiga